c. REMARKS – AMENDMENT B

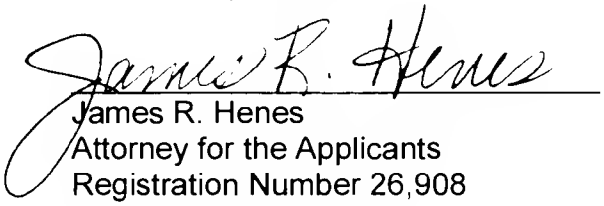
Applicants specification on page 28, line 18, to page 29, line 8 contains Examples 13-17 which illustrates very clearly that regeneration of the bed of adsorbent using a dihydrogen reducing gas containing a substantial amount of carbon monoxide has a much smaller average adsorption capacity for acetylene per milliliter of adsorbent relative to the same aforesaid regeneration in the presence of a reducing gas which is free of a substantial amount of carbon monoxide.

This is in complete contradiction to the statement in Kaminsky et al. in column 17, lines 32-34, that when tail gas containing 100 to 500 parts per million of carbon monoxide (column 16, lines 57-59) was used as the reducing gas for regeneration, the adsorbent capacity surpassed the adsorbent capacity observed when pure hydrogen was employed as the reducing gas for regeneration. Clearly one skilled in the art who wanted to increase the adsorbent capacity of the adsorbent for acetylenic compounds could only conclude from Kaminsky et al. that the use of a reducing gas containing 100 to 500 parts per million of carbon monoxide for regeneration could afford an adsorbent capacity for acetylenic compounds at least as high as when pure hydrogen was employed as the reducing gas. There is definitely no suggestion in Kaminsky et al. that the highest adsorbent capacity is obtained when the reducing gas contains less than 0.5 part per million of carbon monoxide.

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that their Claims 1-20 are allowable, and reconsideration and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Correspondence Address:
BP America Inc.
Docket Clerk, Law Department, M.C.
4101 Winfield Road, 5 East
Warrenville,IL 60555



James R. Henes
Attorney for the Applicants
Registration Number 26,908
(630) 821-2437 (phone)
(630) 821-3384 (fax)